

# THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO



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## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Workforce Partnership Receives Major Grant To Provide Temporary Jobs For Wildfire Disaster Relief**

SAN DIEGO— The San Diego Workforce Partnership has received a \$1.9 million grant for use in the San Diego County Workforce Investment Area to create temporary jobs to help with disaster relief following the recent wildfires. The grant is part of a larger \$12 million federal disaster relief package for San Diego, San Bernardino, Los Angeles and Ventura counties, \$4 million of which was made available for immediate release.

The funds can be used for temporary job creation to provide disaster relief employment on projects that provide food, clothing, shelter, and other humanitarian assistance. The money can also be used to support projects for demolition, cleaning, repair, renovation, and reconstruction of damaged and destroyed structures, facilities, and lands located within the wildfire disaster areas.

"This grant is a major boost for both our disaster relief efforts and our job-creation efforts in the county," said Deputy Mayor and Workforce Partnership Board Chair Toni Atkins. "I applaud the Workforce Partnership and city staff, as well as the county, state and federal agencies, for working together not only to make the grant possible, but to get such a sizeable amount released for immediate use."

The San Diego Workforce Partnership has been working with the City of San Diego Economic and Community Development Department, the County of San Diego, the State of California Economic Development Department, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the United States Department of Labor to apply for a National Emergency Grant. The \$12 million granted was from a request of \$35 million.

The funds can also be used for job-specific training, such as safety training, and for supportive services including child care and vans to transport workers. Priority in hiring will be given to those individuals impacted by the disaster, dislocated workers, and long-term unemployed workers.

"Local workforce investment areas, and their career centers, will play a vital role in the recruitment of the workers funded by this grant," said Atkins. "One of the long-term benefits of this grant is that some of the workers who are hired as temporary employees may later be integrated as full-time employees after the time limit on the grant has expired, or the grant cap has been exceeded. Anytime we can

provide new jobs and help with disaster relief, we've created a winning situation for everyone."

The grant funds may be expended through public and private agencies and other organizations engaged in such projects. There is a wage cap of \$12,000, and workers cannot be employed for more than six months or 1040 hours.

For more information on employment opportunities under this grant, contact the San Diego Workforce Partnership at 619-238-1445.

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